2023 Partner Legislative Requests

PRESENTER NAME: Nova Gattman

BOARD MEETING DATE: 11/9/2022
DISCUSSION TIME ALLOTTED: 30 min

ISSUE/SITUATION:

Be concise - 1 or 2 sentences that get to the heart of the situation, problem or opportunity being addressed.

THE ISSUE/OPPORTUNITY IS:

Board staff will be reporting on the results of the Board Endorsement Committee, which reviewed budget requests from partner organizations for potential endorsement as official legislative agenda items for the Board.

The Endorsement Committee unanimously recommends the following items for endorsement by the full Board at the November 9, 2022 meeting:

- WIT Replacement, Employment Security Department
- AmeriCorps Equity Enhancement, Employment Security Department

Board members will have the opportunity to discuss the items on the list and potentially vote to confirm these two items for the Board's legislative agenda in the November meeting.

BACKGROUND:

Short history of how this recommendation came to be. What has been tried, to what result? What evidence exists to support this recommendation?

RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

RCW 28C.18.060(5) directs the Board to "... review and make recommendations to the Office of Financial Management (OFM) and the Legislature on operating and capital budget requests for operating agencies of the state training system for purposes of consistency with the state comprehensive plan for workforce training and education."

This statutory requirement provides the framework for the review of workforce system requests, and the implementation of the state's strategic plan for workforce development, Talent and Prosperity for All (TAP), allows for a focus on system-specific legislative requests that could move the workforce system toward one or more of the goals and strategies outlined in this plan.

The Board previously endorsed the Department of Services for the Blind's request for funding for Youth Pre-ETS services at the August 3, 2022 meeting. At the September 8, 2022 Board meeting, the Board voted to endorse a joint proposal from the Employment Security Department (ESD) and the Washington Workforce Association for the Economic Security for All funding request, which included both poverty reduction and prevention components and business navigators at each of the 12 regional Workforce Development Councils.

The Board's funding requests to the 2023 Legislature and Governor as well as the previously endorsed partner requests can be found at: https://www.wtb.wa.gov/about-us/workforce-board-legislative-tracker/ under the Budget Requests tab.

At the September 21, 2022 Board meeting, an Endorsement Committee was appointed of the following members, representing business, government, and labor:

- June Altaras, representing business
- Amy Martinez, representing government
- Kairie Pierce, representing labor

Board Co-Chairs Larry Brown and Gary Chandler were also present to support the Endorsement Committee over their two meetings in October. Nova Gattman was the assigned Board staff for the group.

The Endorsement Committee voted unanimously to recommend the following proposals for consideration of an endorsement of the full Board at the November 9, 2022 meeting. The materials provided to the Endorsement Committee by ESD are included in this packet item.

Employment Security Department

1. WIT Replacement

Continue work to replace the existing Work Source Integrated Technology (WIT) case management and labor exchange platform. The work will be completed in two phases. Phase 1 will focus on replacing Efforts to Outcomes (ETO) case management system (CRM) with a customer access portal and Phase 2 will move and replace the labor exchange component.

2. AmeriCorps Equity Enhancement

ESD is requesting funding for a stipend enhancement for low-income Corps members and creation of Peer Navigator positions within AmeriCorps programs administered by ESD. Serve WA is submitting a complementary package.

RECOMMENDATION AND NEXT STEPS:

What specific result do you want from the Board? Is this recommendation for discussion or action? If for discussion, will action be required at a later date? What next steps are expected after this discussion?

THE RECOMMENDATION AND/OR REQUESTED ACTION IS:

Board members will have the opportunity to bring forward a motion to endorse the two ESD requests at this meeting. If endorsed, these would then be added to the Board's workforce system legislative agenda and will be actively part of Board staff and Board members' legislative advocacy efforts.